

## Southeast Youth Council

Norman welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

Connie Laws described the rescission and how Utah has to give back some \$ to the federal. Aim of revision of factors is to reduce the number of youth that are eligible for service because of the reduced budget. Jane said we want each region to look at their factors and see if they need to be revised. Delena said that staff met and the consensus was to raise the threshold number to 12 and leave the rankings unchanged.

Susan moved and Delena seconded to have the threshold level moved to 12. Vote was unanimous.

Joni said that more collaboration needs to take place to teach the youth. Dennis said that most of these strategies come under his direction as adult ed director.

Connie said that many workers lack basic education skills or a GED. Said that we need to reengage these adults to get them to have their skills increased. Dennis said we were graduating around 150 students each year. Now requiring adult ed students to graduate at or above the same level of high schools. Had an issue of graduating students that couldn't read. Numbers have gone down a lot. Have to pass the TABE higher than when they started. Get paid by those that are in school and pass the exams. Have fund reduced. College will accept someone that doesn't have a diploma if they can pass. Get left with the special ed student that can't read, struggled in school, to get a diploma. Often read at a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade level. System doesn't fit these folks. Incentives could be provided for adults by those agencies who are sponsoring.

Norm said we can identify the barriers that are important. Connie said we have a pilot program for a release of information in SLC. If a youth officially withdraws from school, the name is given to DWS and a youth worker can contact them. A worker contacts them and expresses an interest in maintaining them, and will contact them again in six months. Connie says that both of the release forms have been approved by attorneys. About 10% of those who actually drop out are signing the form.

Kate said that they have the issues of coordination, and a group of providers in Carbon County have formed and are jointly using a release of information.

Norm suggested that each county adult ed program could meet with the DWS manager and talk about individuals that could be served. Thought

Joni said they meet with the principal regularly and have the kids getting a F in citizenship assigned to meet with the Community Center. Mentoring is a good thing.

Delena wondered if there could be some flexibility with work and school programs. Need to cater some of these to the adult workers.

Susan said that LIC is working well in Carbon County, and they have education represented. Students that drop out are referred to the DWS youth program.

Dennis said we advertise, and work spreads by word of mouth. Try to communicate with the public. Get some referrals from Kayenta. Get referrals from Voc Rehab. Try to take them off campus.

What would the state suggest: Has to happen at the local level. Each county will need to talk about solve the issues. Law Enforcement Resource Officer. Has a good idea of where the problems are.

Connie said that in Washington State each person has an advisor to meet with you

Norm asked each EC manager to meet with the education folks in their county and see what can be done in their county.

Thanked everyone for their attendance.

Southeast Healthcare Taskforce